

SIDC: Switch from 24 to 96 allocation gates in Intraday Continuous Trading on bidding zone borders between Belgium, Germany and The Netherlands

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In October 2022, the Transmission System Operators (TSOs) Amprion, Elia and TenneT B.V. will adapt the configuration of Belgian-German and Belgian-Dutch borders in intraday continuous trading from 24 allocation gates to 96 allocation gates per day. This will allow cross-border trades in the intraday continuous trading platform to take place closer to real-time, and provides market parties with more time to update their position based on the latest generation and consumption forecasts, which is particularly important given the intermittent nature of renewables.

This configuration change is the second phase of the introduction of 15 minutes cross-border products in the intraday timeframe on the same borders in December 2020.

By the introduction of these 96 allocation gates, the TSOs will fulfil the requirement of the Intraday cross-zonal gate opening and gate closure time methodology¹ which states that the Intraday Cross-zonal Gate Closure Time (IDCZGCT) should always be 60 minutes before the start of the intraday market time unit (MTU) on a bidding zone border. As the ID MTU of Belgian-German and Belgian-Dutch borders are 15 minutes, the number of allocation gates will be set to 96 to respect this condition.

The change from 24 allocation gates to 96 allocation gates per day is illustrated in Figure 1 below.

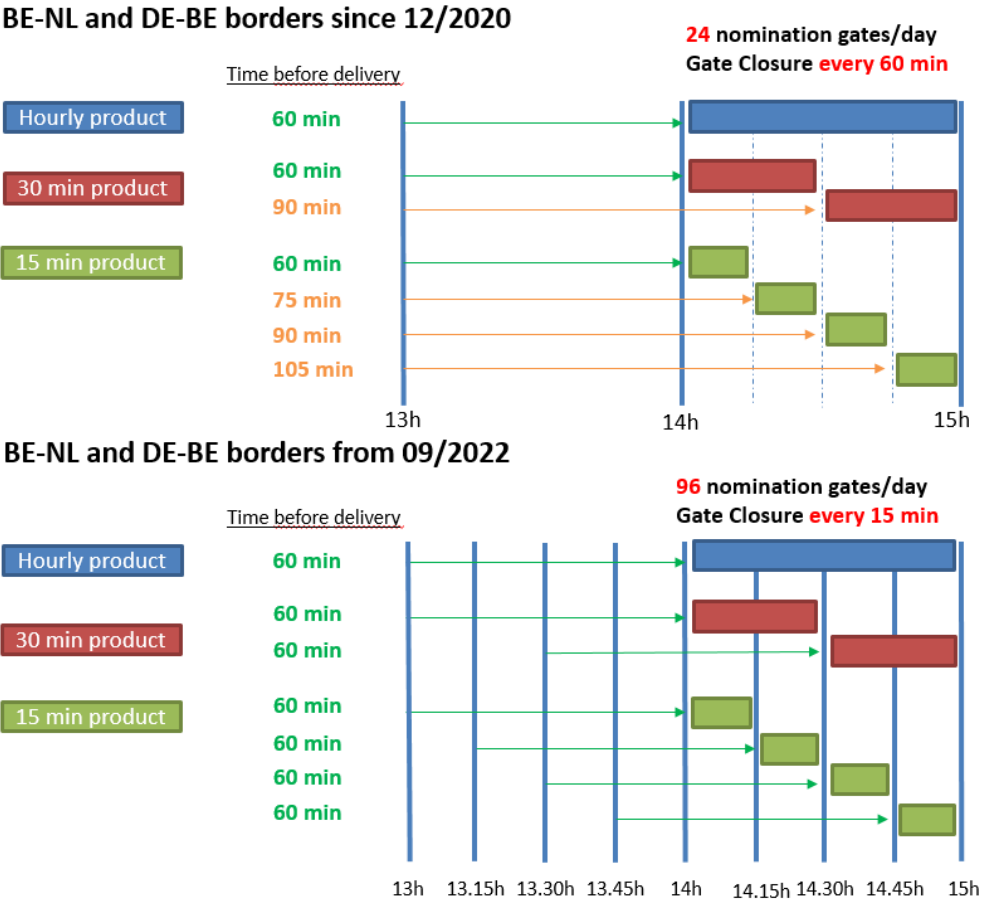


Figure 1 - Evolution of the leading time before delivery in function of the number of the allocation gates

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https://documents.acer.europa.eu/Official_documents/Acts_of_the_Agency/ANNEXES%20TO%20THE%20IDCZGTs/Annex%20I_rectified_ACER%20Decision%20004-2018.pdf

Advantages for market parties

The introduction in 2020 of 15 and 30 minutes products allowed market participants to sell or buy cross-border products with the same resolution as the Imbalance settlement Periods (ISPs) of the Belgian, Dutch, French and German-Luxembourgian bidding zones. This has enhanced the possibilities for imbalance management by market parties, closer to real-time.

Also, the introduction of 15 minutes products on the BE-DE, BE-NL and DE-NL borders and 30 minutes on the BE-FR border have enabled Belgian and Dutch market parties to access existing market liquidity of 15 minutes products in Germany and Austria, and 30 minutes products in Germany and France.

The upcoming change in the number of allocation gate closures will allow cross-border trades in the intraday continuous trading platform closer to real-time, and enables market parties to react later to updated forecasts of renewables output.

Implementation details

The configuration change on BE-DE and BE-NL borders is expected to take place in the beginning of October 2022. The final date will be communicated after testing between involved TSOs.

Belgian-French border will continue to be operated with 24 nomination gates until further notice because of incompatibilities with TERRE platform.

Next steps

No further action is needed by market participants before go-live.